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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Thomas Monden, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/716,034
FILED: November 18, 2003
FOR: SEALING SYSTEM
EXAMINER: Naoko N. Slack **Group:** 3635

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 20, 2006, in which the Examiner rejected claims 12, 16 and 23 as being unpatentable over the prior art, and indicated that claims 13-15 and 24 would become allowable upon having been rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 13-15 and 24 is noted and appreciated.

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: